Alexey Zarakovskiy

Software Engineer
Master in Computer Science

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Fluent: English, Russian
Proficient: Dutch, Spanish & Polish

Citizen of the European Union

15+ years in software engineering. Language and technology agnostic. *Nothing-is-impossible* mindset.

Golang · Python · Java · Kotlin · PHP · Javascript · Typescript · Bash · C#.NET

Kubernetes · AWS · Docker · Kafka · DynamoDB · PostgreSQL · GCP · Elasticsearch · Protobuf · React

AWS CDK · Prometheus · Grafana · Datadog + Synthetics · Gitlab CI/CD · ArgoCD · Docker Testcontainers

Projects & Experience

Personio · European HR platform serving 12k+ customers

Senior Backend Engineer · Mar 2023 - Present · 2 yrs 8 mos · Amsterdam

<u>Whistleblowing (Golang):</u> Designed and delivered EU-compliant whistleblowing service (isolated AWS infra, anonymous authentication, 99.92% uptime, 100-300ms response). Architected dual-infrastructure setup ensuring full anonymity and regulatory isolation. Coordinated a virtual team of 3 engineers maintaining the service post-launch, resolving 14 critical security vulnerabilities. Established automated testing via component tests (Docker Testcontainers) and Datadog synthetic monitoring.

<u>Surveys (Kotlin):</u> Transitioned from Golang to Kotlin stack. Delivered major platform features including dashboard revamp (flexible filtering, major API change), single user data snapshot functionality (preventing exponential DB growth), date-driven filters (sophisticated filters relative to a given date), questions result categorization (higher business abstraction for existing data). Owned zero-downtime migration of 24Gb dataset including index optimization, which led to 2x performance improvement for 10+ affected endpoints bringing P99 latency below 300ms from 600+ ms

Golang · Kotlin · Kubernetes · AWS · PostgreSQL · Docker · Kafka · Protobuf · Typescript · ArgoCD · AWS CDK

BEAT | FREENOW · Ride-hailing platform with 250k+ drivers across LatAm and Greece

Senior Backend (Golang) Engineer · Sep 2019 - Jan 2023 · 3 yrs 4 mos · Amsterdam

<u>Pricing team:</u> Implemented geo-zone pricing engine supporting incentive-driven dynamic pricing across multiple markets.

<u>Platform infrastructure team:</u> Developed API gateway (5-10k rps) backed by Skipper framework. Built high-throughput authentication service backed by DynamoDB and Redis. Replaced PHP monolith implementation with microservices architecture while maintaining live infrastructure. Consumed user identity data from Kafka as ownership transitioned from monolith. Implemented containerized integration testing to validate routing and auth behavior under change.

Kubernetes deep-dive: introduced custom Kubernetes CRDs integrated with Kubernetes API to achieve flexible routing beyond standard Ingress capabilities. Built a Golang library adopted by 7 teams that enabled dynamic registration of API endpoints in the gateway. This facilitated team independence and allowed gradual monolith migration.

Golang · Kubernetes · AWS · DynamoDB · Docker · Kafka · PHP · Protobuf

fashionTrade · Early-stage B2B fashion marketplace backed by Bestseller & Zalando

Senior Java Engineer · May 2018 - Jul 2019 · 1 yr 3 mos · Amsterdam

Designed and delivered a distributed data integration platform serving hundreds of early adopters in the EU fashion wholesale market through multiple funding rounds. The system handled async data ingestion, fuzzy matching with Elasticsearch, Kafka event streams, and microservices orchestration on Kubernetes. Responsible for cloud infrastructure and production reliability.

Java · Python · REST · Docker · Kafka · GCP · Kubernetes · Elasticsearch

SDL Web · Open-source framework for a complex enterprise CMS

Technical Team Lead · Jan 2017 - Apr 2018 · 11 mos · Amsterdam

Senior Java Engineer · Oct 2015 - Jan 2017 · 1 yr 8 mos · Amsterdam

Led development of open-source Java components for an enterprise CMS framework, implementing reflection-based dynamic model mapping and abstraction layers for developers, leading to reduced integration time. Reviewed and integrated contributions from the community.

Java · Spring · Maven · Gradle · Open-source · C#.NET

EPAM Systems · (Senior) Full-stack Engineer (Java) · 2012 - 2015 · 3 yrs · Russia ➜ Poland & Germany

Delivering enterprise solutions for clients like Yota (Russia), PayPal (US) and MeteoSystems (Germany).

L.I.C. · Workflow automation system · Full-stack Engineer (Java) · 2011 - 2012 · 1 yr 1 mos · Russia

Orange · Web development · Full-stack (PHP) / PM / Co-founder · 2009 - 2011 · 2 yrs 1 mos · Russia

State factory · Real-time monitoring software · C++ / C# Developer · Jul 2006 - Jun 2009 · 3 yrs · Russia

Education

ITMO University, Master in Computer Science · 2005 - 2011 · Russia

UX Design Essentials Course, Exigen Services · 2011 · Russia